

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 31 August 1948

SUBJECT Bulgarian Army Order of Battle; Locations of  
Military Factories and Warehouses

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

I. Location of Army Units

1. The locations of Bulgarian infantry regiments are as follows:

4th Infantry Regiment	Pleven
9th Infantry Regiment	Plovdiv
10th Infantry Regiment	Kirdjali
12th Infantry Regiment	Kyustendil
14th Infantry Regiment	Gorna-Djuma
18th Infantry Regiment	Radomir
22nd Infantry Regiment	Dupnitsa
27th Infantry Regiment	Razlog (recently moved to Pazardzhik)
30th Infantry Regiment	Simeonovgrad
32nd Infantry Regiment	Burgas
33rd Infantry Regiment	Svishtov
36th Infantry Regiment	Orehovo (part of 9th Division of Pleven)
39th Infantry Regiment	Nevrokop
49th Infantry Regiment	Burgas

Of the above regiments the 18th, 22nd and 39th belong to the 7th Division of Dupnitsa.

2. There is a mechanized regiment of heavy artillery in Plovdiv, another in Stara-Zagora, and a third in Samokov.
3. There is an artillery regiment in Pleven, and another in Sliven.
4. The 25th Artillery Regiment is located in Vratsa.
5. A battalion of artillery belonging to the Stara-Zagora Regiment is based in Svilengrad.
6. The 9th Field Artillery Regiment, located in Sevlievo, is under the 9th Division of Pleven.
7. The 1st Armored Brigade is in Sofia.
8. There is an armored division in Kazanlik which has Russian-type tanks.

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- 20. The second platoon of a machine gun company has individual mortars as well as larger mortars of Russian manufacture.
- 21. The third platoon has anti-aircraft guns of Russian manufacture. These guns have a 7.62 mm. diameter.

### III. School for Non-Commissioned Officers.

- 22. Since February 1948 there has been a school for non-commissioned officers at the base of the 10th Infantry Regiment at Kirdjali. It has 92 candidates of the class of 1947. The commandant of this school is Lieutenant Velkov. There are four sections in the school, two for riflemen, one for machine guns, and one for anti-tank guns. Training will be completed in September 1948.

### IV. Border Army

- 23. The commander of the border army is General Bulganarov, and the Chief of Staff is Colonel Glavincev.
- 24. This corps consists of eight regiments, with a strength of 4,000 to 6,000 men each, according to the importance of the area.
- 25. Weapons are for the most part German rifles, Schmeisser sub-machine guns, German automatic rifles, water-cooled and air-cooled machine guns and a ten centimeter cannon of Russian manufacture.

### V. Construction of New Barracks

- 26. At Girtsovo and Gertsikovo, north of the village of Buinovo and about two kilometers from the Bulgarian border, barracks are being constructed.
- 27. At Boria, northeast of the village of Breshten, a barracks building is under construction.

### VI. Location of Military Factories and Warehouses

- 28. In Gara Pavlikeni (on the railroad line 32 kilometers northwest of Trnovo), there is an ammunition dump.
- 29. In Pleven (between the old and the new station, three kilometers from the old station) there is a gasoline store and about two kilometers from this there is an ammunition dump.
- 30. In Gara Kostanets (18 kilometers north of Ihtiman) there is a very large military ~~mag~~ with all kinds of war material. It has underground magazines cut into the mountain; these are large enough to permit the entrance of a railroad train.
- 31. In Slatinsko-Redoubt, four kilometers from Sofia on the road to Plovdiv, there is an ammunition dump.
- 32. In Bozhurishte (Sofia) there is a factory making ammunition. It is located near the airdrome.
- 33. In Kazanlik there is reported to be an underground factory making ammunition and airplanes.
- 34. In Sopot (52 kilometers west of Kazanlik on the highway to Sofia) there is a large factory making aerial bombs and airplanes.
- 35. In Drenovo (18 kilometers southwest of Trnovo) there is a factory making railroad cars.

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## 9. The locations of cavalry regiments are as follows:

- a. Sofia
- b. Sofia (mounted garrison)
- c. Bresnik
- d. Sliven
- e. Silistra (8th Cavalry Regiment)
- f. Shumen (2nd Cavalry Regiment)

## 10. The locations of army engineer regiments are as follows:

- a. Sofia
- b. Pleven
- c. Plovdiv

## 11. The locations of army bridge-building regiments are as follows:

- a. Nikopolis
- b. Shumen
- c. Svishtov
- d. Ruse

## 12. Anti-aircraft guns and air raid shelters were constructed in and around Sofia in April.

II. Composition and Armament of Units

- 13. The commander of the 10th Infantry Regiment is Lieutenant Colonel Ivan Rusikanov and the political commissar is Captain Bosev. One battalion of this regiment is located in Kirdjali and another battalion is located in Krumovgrad; its commander is Captain Nekezov, and the political commissar is Lieutenant Kirtsev. The commander of the 4th Company is Lieutenant Iordanov.
- 14. The commander of the 2nd Machine Gun Company is Lieutenant Mitkov. This company consists of three platoons. The 1st Platoon has machine guns, the 2nd Platoon has mortars, and the 3rd Platoon has anti-aircraft guns.
- 15. The weapons used in the Bulgarian Army are all of Russian make and were received before 15 September 1947. The rifle companies have Vedovka 7.62 mm rifles with long barrels and are equipped with clips which contain five cartridges. These rifles have a maximum range of 3,000 meters and an effective range of 800 meters. These rifles have a bayonet 50 centimeters long.
- 16. The Bulgarian Army also has Schmeisser sub-machine guns (barrel surrounded with a perforated cylinder, wooden stock without hand grip; magazines are cylindrical and inserted from the bottom and hold 70 nine millimeter cartridges).
- 17. The Bulgarian Army has Dikterova machine guns of the same diameter (7.62mm) as the rifles. These have circular magazines. These machine guns rest on a two-legged support (like Bren guns). Maximum range is 3,000 meters. Each squad carries one of these Dikterova machine guns.
- 18. The Bulgarians use hand grenades of the Bulkalka type and rifle grenades of the German Mauser type.
- 19. The first platoon of a machine gun company has three Maxim Sokolov machine guns 7.62 mm. which use long cartridge bolts. These machine guns are supported on two-wheeled steel carriages and can be used as anti-aircraft guns.

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36. In Gabrovo (35 kilometers northwest of Trnovo) there is a factory producing clothing, shoes, et cetera, for the army.

VII. Recruiting

37. On 27 April 1948 the reserve officers and non-commissioned officers of all classes, i.e. those born in 1910 and later, were called up for training in the new weapons. This training was to last 20 days.
38. In June 1948 the information service of the Army recruiting office announced through the towns and communities that the classes of 1910-1924 should be formed into units to be called up in case of emergency.

VIII. Labor Battalions Headquarters (Trudovaks)

39. The labor battalions headquarters (Trudovaks) are located as follows:

1st Trudovak regiment is based in Sofia  
2nd Trudovak regiment is based in Plovdiv  
3rd Trudovak regiment is based in Pleven  
4th Trudovak regiment is based in Varna  
5th Trudovak regiment is based in Trnovo  
6th Trudovak regiment is based in Lom (on the Danube)  
7th Trudovak regiment is based in Vratsa (60 kilometers northeast of Sofia)  
8th Trudovak regiment is based in Stara-Zagora

IX. Airforce

40. The auxiliary airfields constructed by the Germans at Ano-Navrokop, Petric, and Meleniko have received no maintenance or repair. They are, however, in good condition and are used for emergency landings.

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